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May 8, 2019

Respite for Caregivers



Dear Friends,

From out of control prescription drug costs to rising insurance premiums, there are several issues we need to address within our health care system. One important health care issue for many across the country is the lack of respite services for families caring for loved ones with chronic and disabling conditions. Currently, there are over 43 million family caregivers in the United States. Respite programs provide caregivers temporary relief from the full-time task of caregiving so they can enjoy a break and have opportunities to address other responsibilities in their lives.

Family members who provide care for relatives often face a disproportionate strain on their own health and finances. To help alleviate this burden, [I introduced the bipartisan Lifespan Respite Care Reauthorization Act of 2019](#), which would authorize \$200 million in funding over the next five years to support family caregivers. This funding would provide family caregivers with crucial support services that alleviate stress, improve family wellbeing, and allow them to continue providing care to their loved ones outside of

Join the Conversation:



Save The Date

CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS

*Enjoy lunch while learning
tips to stay safe while using
the Internet!*

*May 13, 11:15 - 12:30
Cranston Senior Enrichment
Center
1070 Cranston Street
Cranston*

Did You Know...?

DC VISITS

Summer vacation will be here before you know it. Rep. Langevin's office can help you navigate the nation's capital with information on tours, tickets, and sightseeing. >>

FAST FACT

Rhode Island will launch the first statewide cybercrime support and recovery system in the nation on May 13. >>

In Other News

MUELLER REPORT

more costly institutional settings, like nursing homes.

I first authored and introduced legislation creating the Lifespan Respite Care Program in 2002 and was the lead Democratic sponsor of the legislation when it was signed into law in 2006. Under current law, states are allocated federal funding to implement, improve, and expand respite care in their communities. This funding has been a critical lifeline for full-time caregivers for years, and I am eager to see the program reauthorized at a higher level of funding to reach more caregivers in need.

To keep up with the latest status on this bill, and for updates on my other legislative priorities, please visit [my website](#) and follow me on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) and [Instagram](#).

Sincerely,

Jim Langevin



Stop & Shop Strike

I stopped by the picket line in North Kingstown to show my support for United Food and Commercial Workers Union Stop & Shop employees during their strike. It is encouraging that an agreement has since been reached that appropriately serves the Stop & Shop workers and their families.

Further, the events that transpired are a reminder of the importance of collective bargaining rights in ensuring fair working conditions for employees.



Forgiving Loans for Parents of Disabled Students

I joined Sen. Rob Portman of Ohio to introduce [bipartisan, bicameral legislation](#) that extends disability federal student loan forgiveness to Parent PLUS loans. Currently, the Department of Education discharges loans for students with a total and permanent disability, but parents do not receive the same relief if the loan was taken out in their name. My bill addresses this inequity and ensures that families can recover from tragedy without the weight of unfair student loan debt.

Rep. Langevin issued a statement with his initial reaction following the release of the redacted version of Special Counsel Robert Mueller's report. >>

PROTECTING WOMEN

Rep. Langevin voted to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act, legislation that expands services available to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. >>

COMBATING CLIMATE CHANGE

Rep. Langevin is working to ensure the United States military is prepared for the national security threats posed by climate change. >>

SAVING THE NET

Rep. Langevin voted for the Save the Internet Act to restore the net neutrality rules that were repealed by the FCC in December 2017. >>

CHATTING WITH GENE

Rep. Langevin joined Gene Valecenti on *NBC 10 News Conference* to discuss the Mueller report and the latest issues in Congress. >>

SOUTH COUNTY

Rep. Langevin visited the South County Tourism Council to learn about their latest efforts to attract visitors to southern Rhode Island. >>

CYBER IN THE CAPITAL

Rep. Langevin spoke at *The Atlantic's* Cyber Landscape Forum in Washington to discuss a variety of cybersecurity topics. >>

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